

## *The President's Daily Brief*

6 October 1972

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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

6 October 1972

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

[Redacted]

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[Redacted] India. (Page 1)

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[Redacted]

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[Redacted] the North Vietnamese are building a new petroleum pipeline along their northern coast. (Page 3)

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In Laos, the Communists are preparing to attack the government's remaining task force on the Plaine des Jarres. (Page 5)

Egyptian President Sadat's recent suggestion that a provisional Palestinian government be established has failed to generate any significant Arab interest. (Page 6)

In Chile, the Allende government is getting a political boost from the Kennecott Corporation's interference with a copper shipment to France. (Page 7)

The Soviet TU-95 naval reconnaissance aircraft that remains in Cuba evidently was damaged during a mission flown from the island. (Page 8)

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Guatemala [Redacted]

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[Redacted] (Page 8)

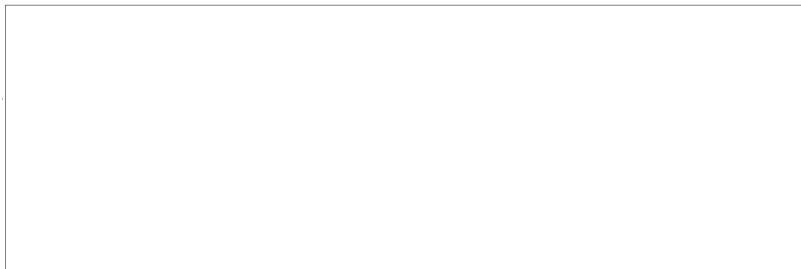
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India will announce today the establishment of diplomatic relations with East Germany. (Page 8)

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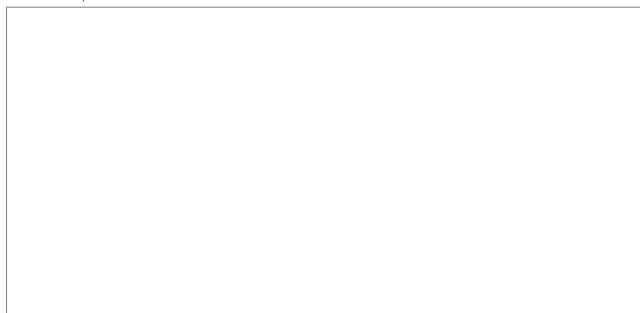
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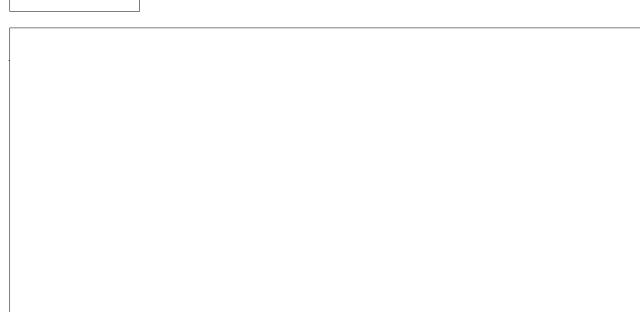
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Petroleum Pipeline in North Vietnam



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VIETNAM



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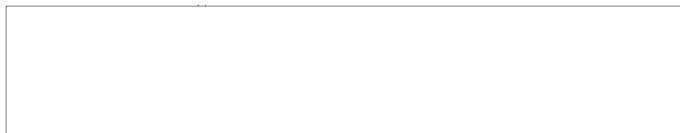
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Aerial photography [redacted] indicates that the North Vietnamese are building a new pipeline along their northern coast, most likely into China. Two miles of trenching and ten miles of intermittent traces were photographed, starting at a point five miles northwest of Hon Gai. The trenching is near the line that runs from Hon Gai to Hai Duong, where it joins the three pipelines running south from Ping-hsiang, China.

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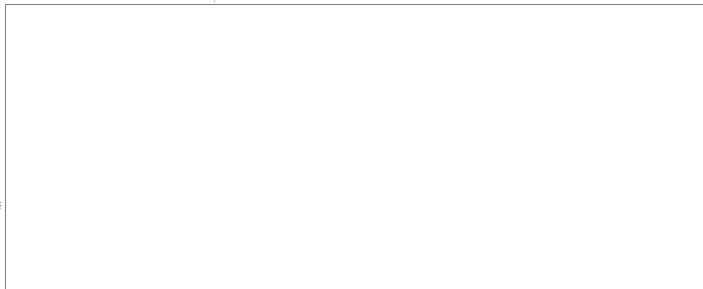


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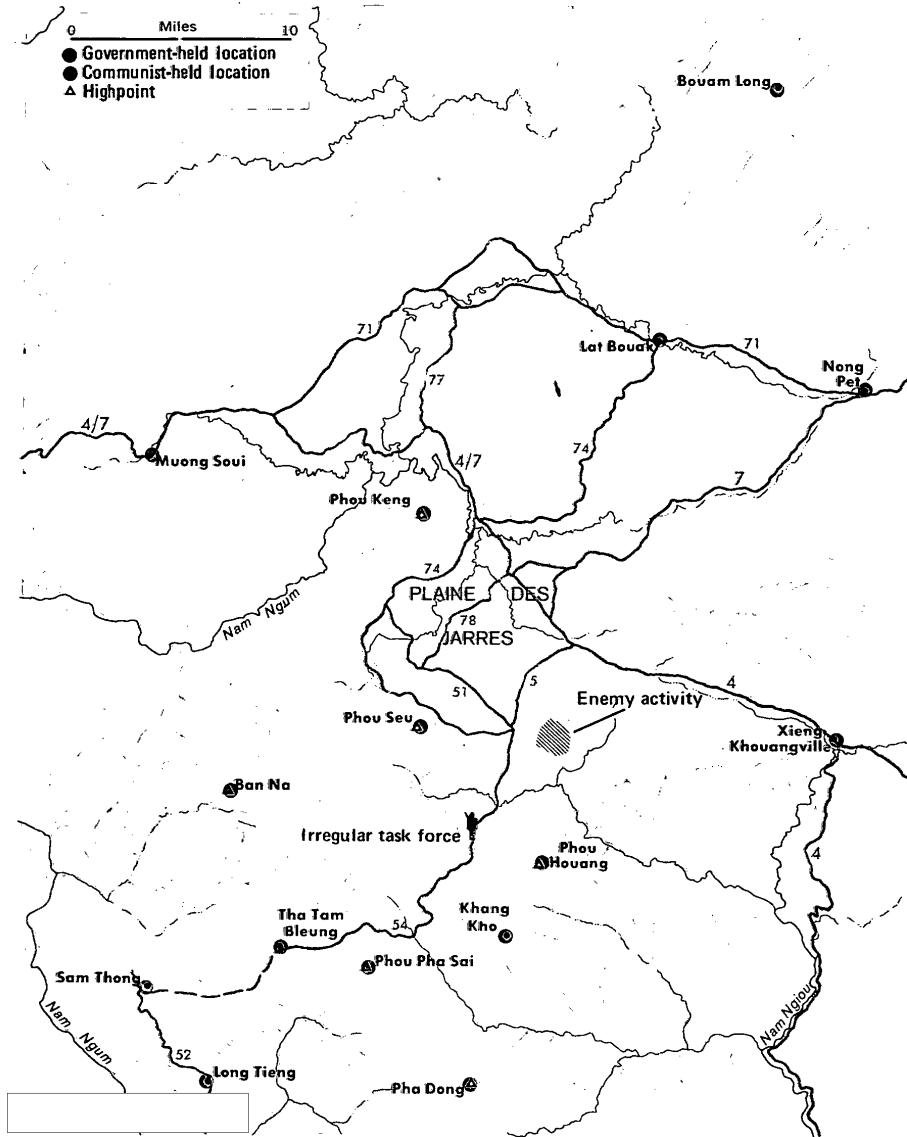
\* \* \*

There is additional evidence that the North Vietnamese are beginning their annual dry season supply push. Intercepted messages during the past ten days reflect the continuing delivery of large quantities of supplies through the North Vietnamese panhandle. Between 25 September and 3 October, well over 1,100 tons, much of it large-caliber ammunition, was moved south from Vinh both by road and waterway.

*The heavy resupply activity will help to maintain stockpiles in northern South Vietnam, where the Communists have been expending large caliber ammunition at a rate of over 30 tons a day since the offensive began in late March. In addition, the North Vietnamese are now preparing for their annual dry-season effort--just a few weeks away--to move supplies to Cambodia and southern South Vietnam. This logistics effort will be launched from North Vietnam's panhandle.*

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LAOS: PLAINE DES JARRES AREA



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**LAOS**

Intercepted messages indicate that the Communists are preparing to attack the government's remaining task force on the Plaine des Jarres. Elements of three North Vietnamese regiments plus artillery units have moved near General Vang Pao's task force at the southern tip of the Plaine. US pilots report signs of heavy enemy activity and the presence of tanks in the general vicinity. One intercepted message discloses that the Communists intend to complete plans for an infantry and tank attack by this weekend.

Vang Pao now has some 2,500 troops in the southern Plaine area in preparation for a move against Phou Seu, a ridge overlooking the southwestern Plaine. With the aid of air strikes, his units have thus far managed to turn back several small Communist counter-attacks. Three other task forces operating near the Plaine have made no further progress.

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**EGYPT**

President Sadat's recent suggestion that a provisional Palestinian government be established has failed to generate any significant Arab interest. After deliberations last weekend in Beirut, the Executive Committee of the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) apparently rejected Sadat's proposal, asserting that it would only support "a Palestinian entity as embodied by the PLO and its institutions."

Sadat's announcement in late September appears to have caught the PLO leadership off guard and may have precluded a serious discussion of the subject. The formation of a government-in-exile has long been a contentious issue among fedayeen leaders, and there are serious differences among them about what form it should take.

PLO Chairman Arafat and other members of the Executive Committee are probably apprehensive about retaining what authority they now have over the fedayeen in any new Palestinian Organization. They also know that they would face a serious problem in gaining general Palestinian support for a PLO-sponsored provisional government. Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank of Jordan are antipathetic toward the fedayeen; and those on the East Bank, fearing repression from Amman, are reluctant to voice approval of a provisional government.

President Sadat's motives for publicly broaching this proposal appear to be rhetorical and tactical. The Munich incident and its aftermath generated great emotional support within the Arab world for the Palestinians, and Sadat apparently found it convenient to seize upon the idea of a provisional government in order to strengthen his claim to Arab leadership. Sadat's proposal may also have been aimed at undercutting King Husayn's plan for a United Arab Kingdom.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**CHILE**

A French court has granted the Kennecott Corporation's request for attachment of a million dollar Chilean copper shipment due in France this weekend. Kennecott, claiming indemnity for its nationalized copper interests in Chile, had warned potential buyers that they risk such action. Yesterday a spokesman for Kennecott informed US officials that President Pompidou has personally intervened in the case and is attempting to get the French court to reverse its decision.

In Chile, opposition parties have joined government forces in cries of outrage over this "act of piracy." This rare national unanimity provides President Allende with an opportunity further to buttress his political position.

*The embargo action does, however, have serious economic implications for Chile. The government will shortly begin negotiations for 1973 copper sales contracts with major European buyers; they may now be reluctant to contract for shipments that might later be embargoed.*

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NOTES

USSR-Cuba: Photography of Havana's Jose Marti airfield shows a Soviet TU-95 naval reconnaissance aircraft in the grass some 60 feet off the runway in a remote part of the airfield.

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a pair of TU-95s had flown reconnaissance missions from Cuba along the east coast of the US and one of these aircraft apparently was damaged on its return landing. The other three TU-95s that flew to Cuba in early September were photographed at the airfield's maintenance area. These aircraft returned to the

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Guatemala:

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India - East Germany: The US Embassy in New Delhi has learned that India will announce today the establishment of diplomatic relations with East Germany. The decision to take this step was made more than a year ago, but its implementation was held in abeyance in deference to West Germany's sensitivities. The Indians apparently believe that East-West German negotiations have proceeded far enough that Bonn's position would not be seriously undercut by New Delhi's move.

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